

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is concurrently filed with a Request for Continued Examination for the above-identified patent application. In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 85-119, 122, 125, 127, 128, and 131 and added claims 132-149. Accordingly, claims 120-121, 123-124, 126, 129-130, and 132-149 will be pending in the application after entry of this Amendment.

I. Rejections under U.S.C. Section 103

In the Final Office Action mailed 22 August 2008, claims 85, 86, 88, and 115-116 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,751,402 (hereinafter referred to as Elliot), in view of US Patent 6,901,603 (hereinafter referred to as Zeidler), in further view of US Patent 6,038,614 (hereinafter referred to as Chan).

Claim 89 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliot, in view of Zeidler, in further view of Chan, in further view of US Patent 6,353,700 (hereinafter referred to as Zhou).

Claim 90 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliot, in view of Zeidler, in further view of Chan, in further view of US Patent 6,826,512 (hereinafter referred to as Dara-Abrams).

Claim 91 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliot, in view of Zeidler, in further view of Chan, in further view of US Patent 5,793,366 (hereinafter referred to as Mano).

Claim 93 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliot, in view of Zeidler, in further view of Chan, in further view of US Patent 5,883,621 (hereinafter referred to as Iwamura).

Applicants have canceled these claims and have amended claim 120. Claim 120 as amended recites a home media system comprising:

home network;

coupled to said home network, a plurality of media devices comprising a plurality of different types of objects comprising media, said plurality of media devices comprising a video device comprising video objects, an audio device comprising audio objects, and an image device comprising image objects;

coupled to said home network, a storage set-top box configured for:

acquiring a plurality of different types of objects comprising video, audio, and image objects from the plurality of media devices;

storing the plurality of different types of objects; and

organizing the plurality of different types of objects based on the type of object; and

coupled to said home network, a control/playback set-top box configured for:

providing a plurality of media applications comprising a video application for video objects, an audio application for audio objects, and a photo application for image objects;

receiving a first request for a first object;

retrieving, across said home network, said first object from said storage set-top box;

running a first media application for playing a first media in said first object;

receiving a second request for a second object;

retrieving, across said home network, said second object from said storage set-top box; and

running a second media application for playing a second media in said second object,

wherein said first and second media applications are run simultaneously,

wherein said first and second media are played simultaneously.

[Emphasis added.]

Applicants submit that none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest each and every element of claim 120. For example, the cited references do not

teach or suggest organizing the plurality of different types of media based on the type of media, and running first and second media applications simultaneously, and playing first and second media simultaneously.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not render unpatentable claim 120. Since claims 121, 123-124, 126, 129-130, and 132-135 are dependent upon claim 120, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not invalidate these claims for at least the reasons given above in relation to claim 120. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 103(a) rejection of claims 120-121, 123-124, 126, 129-130, and 132-135.

II. New Claims

Applicants add new claims. New independent claim 136 recites a computer-program product. Claims 137-142 are dependent upon claim 136.

New independent claim 143 recites a method of managing several media devices that are coupled within a home network. Claims 144-149 are dependent upon claim 143.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not disclose, teach, or even suggest several elements recited by the new claims 136-149. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request examination and allowance of new claims 136-149.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is requested. Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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